**WASHINGTON** – Congresswomen Louise Slaughter (NY-28) and Diana DeGette (CO-1), Co-Chairs of the House Pro-Choice Caucus today put out the following statement reacting to the Republican's proposed "No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion Act", a government intrusion on women's rights to choose.

"This legislation is a stark departure from the status quo and not only infringes on the rights of women to choose, but taxes them for their choices. It is a massive intrusion on a woman's right to choose," said Slaughter. "The proposed legislation jeopardizes the ability of private citizens and American families to use their own dollars to purchase abortion coverage and levies harsh penalties for those who choose to purchase comprehensive insurance coverage. The bill makes no exception for the health of the mother, or women who are victims of domestic violence. All lawmakers should recognize this bill as a radical departure from the status quo."

"This bill represents the biggest infringement on a woman's right to choose in our lifetime," said DeGette. "The assertion that the bill simply reflects the Hyde amendment, which already prohibits public funding for abortions, is patently false. With unemployment hovering near double digits, and underemployment even higher, the first priority of this Congress should be to help get Americans back to work – not inject itself into a woman's constitutionally protected right to choose what is best for her family."

Text of Legislation